VISIT…

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SUPER HEROES FROM THE MIND OF
CLIVE BARKER
HYPERKIND™
BLOOD ON HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD!
BLISS
& INTRODUCING THE BEAUTY OF
OBI
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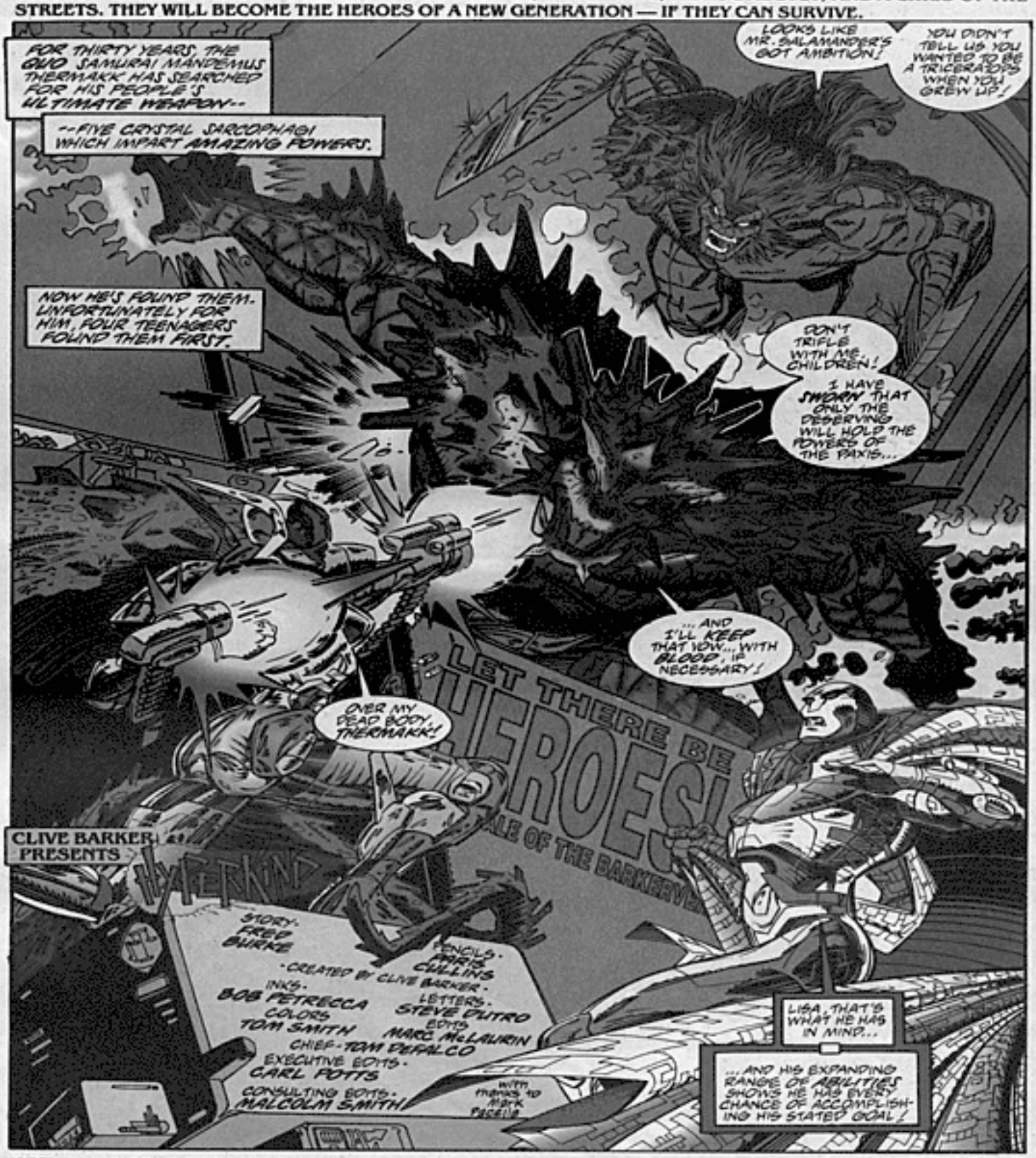
ONCE, LONG AGO, SUPER HEROES WERE REAL. NOW, THE POWER IS REBORN INTO FOUR PRODUCTS OF THE GRIT AND GLITZ OF HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD: A JOCK, A RICH GIRL, A DRUG ADDICT, AND A CHILD OF THE STREETS. THEY WILL BECOME THE HEROES OF A NEW GENERATION — IF THEY CAN SURVIVE.


FOR THIRTY YEARS, THE OVO SAMURAI MANDEMUS THERMAKK HAS SEARCHED FOR HIS PEOPLE'S ULTIMATE WEAPON--
--FIVE CRYSTAL SARCOPHAGI WHICH IMPART AMAZING POWERS.
NOW HE'S FOUND THEM. UNFORTUNATELY FOR HIM, FOUR TEENAGERS FOUND THEM FIRST.
LOOKS LIKE MR. SALAMANDER'S GOT AMBITION!
YOU DIDN'T TELL US YOU WANTED TO BE A TRICERATOPS WHEN YOU GREW UP!
DON'T TRIFLE WITH ME, CHILDREN!
I HAVE SWORN THAT ONLY THE DESERVING WILL HOLD THE POWERS OF THE PAXIS...
...AND I'LL KEEP THAT VOW... WITH BLOOD, IF NECESSARY!
OVER MY DEAD BODY, THERMAKK!
LET THERE BE HEROES!
A TALE OF THE BARKERVERSE
CLIVE BARKER PRESENTS
HYPERKIND
STORY. FRED BURKE
PENCILS. MARK CULLINS
-CREATED BY CLIVE BARKER-
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LISA, THAT'S WHAT HE HAS IN MIND...
...AND HIS EXPANDING RANGE OF ABILITIES SHOWS HE HAS EVERY CHANCE OF ACCOMPLISHING HIS STATED GOAL!

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SPLAH!
I DIDN'T FIGHT MY WAY THROUGH THE STREETS OF L.A. JUST TO BE CALLED A CHILD!
THAT GLASS COFFIN MADE ME BIG, ANGRY, AND MORE'N A LITTLE LETHAL--
--SO SHOW SOME RESPECT!
DYAN! SHE'S TRANSFORMING-- JUST LIKE THE REST OF US!
HER BIO-ELECTRICAL ENERGY-- THE POWER BEHIND EVERY CELL-- IS BEING SIPHONED AWAY INTO THAT CRYSTAL SPHERE! FANTASTIC--
--ALMOST BEYOND EVEN MY ABILITY TO COMPREHEND!
AND THAT MUST BE THE NEXT STEP! SOMEHOW, ONE MENTAL ABILITY IS TARGETED... ALTERED... ENHANCED!
"EVEN AS DYAN'S FLESH IS STRIPPED AWAY...
"...HER DNA IS BEING REMIXED IN THE GLOBE! THE TINY ELECTRIC SURGES THAT ONCE POWERED HER NERVOUS SYSTEM ARE LIKE A SOUL -- IN A HOLDING PATTERN, WAITING TO INHABIT HER NEW BODY!"

SWAK!
YOU WANT RESPECT? RETURN THE GUD POWERS TO THE SARCOPHAGI!
THEN AND ONLY THEN WILL I GIVE HONOR TO THIEVES!
YOU QUESTIONIN' MY MORAL INTEGRITY? WHO ATTACKED WHOM HERE, BUDDY?
I WILL NOT ANSWER TO YOU, INSOLENT ONE!
WHEW! HE'S GOT A POWER FOR EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK!
THOOM
BUT LOGIX IS LOST IN THOUGHT...
HEY LOGIX! FACE FRONT AND GIMME A HAND HERE!
"OH DYAN! WE'RE JUST GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER!
"IS THIS STRANGE NEW FLESH YOU'RE GROWING GOING TO MAKE YOU HAPPY?
"WILL A SKELETON OF METAL BE ENOUGH TO FINALLY HOLD YOU TOGETHER?"
3

TEKKA TEKKA TEKKA
LOOKS LIKE I'VE COME UP WITH A NEW KIND OF AMMO!
DAMNED IF I KNOW HOW, THOUGH!
LET'S SEE IF SOME RAPID BURSTS CAN GIVE GEORGE SOME BREATHING ROOM!
DRIVING...
...ME...
...BACK!
DAMN YOU, GIRL! YOU WILL NEVER SLEEP EASY IN THE RIGHTEOUS MELD-SOUL THAT IS PAXIS!
AND THEN THE FIGHTING STOPS.
SHE IS LIKE AN ANGEL.
D-DYAN?

UH-- YEAH... I GUESS SO...

HELLO...
DID SHE JUST MAKE LITTLE CARTOON BIRDS APPEAR?
I THINK SO. THEY PROBABLY SPEAK HER LANGUAGE
NOW, LISA... BE NICE. SHE CAN SOMEHOW CONTROL THE GLOWING ENERGY AROUND HER-- MANIPULATE IT INTO SOLID FORMS.
YES-- A REMARKABLE ASPECT OF QUO TECHNOLOGY--
--SORT OF LIKE THIS!
--PITY SHELL NEVER USE IT AGAIN!
NO!
GOT TO FOLLOW THE TRAJECTORY AND INTERCEPT AT THOUGHTSPEED!
OH!
PLOOP
PLOOP
PLOOP
PANG
PL
PLOP
SNAP
NOW, IF ONLY MY AIM DEFLECTS IT PROPERLY...
...WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THERMAKK ONCE AND FOR--
WHASH
HE- HE'S GONE!

GEEZ, KENNY--YOU DIDN'T LIFT A FINGER WHEN HE WAS GOING AFTER ME!
TELEPORTATION! THERMAKK'S POWERS SEEM ALMOST LIMITLESS!
HE'S GOT EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT--IN SPADES!
HEY, GUYS--
--HE'S BACK!
KA-CK
LET ME GO, YOU SONOVA-- I'M NO FAY WRAY!
HEY, LET HER LOOSE DINO-MAN! I'M THE ONLY BEAST SHE'S WALTZING WITH!
THEY'RE BOTH GONE!
FWASH
THANKS FOR EXPLAINING THAT TO ME...

BUT THEY HAVEN'T GONE FAR. HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD. THREE A.M., AND THE LIVING IS ANYTHING BUT EASY.
THIS PUNY STRUCTURE IS TALL ENOUGH FOR MY NEEDS, GIRL!
P-PUNY?! THERMAKK, PARAGON PICTURES IS THE BIGGEST HIGH-RISE IN HOLLYWOOD!
ALL THE BETTER TO KILL YOU WITH, MY DEAR!
NOW HEAR ME WELL!
WHEN THE ANUBISTI AND HORUSIANS BROUGHT THEIR MINDLESS WAR TO EARTH, THE QUO--MY PEOPLE--SENT YOU THE PAXIS... FIVE PEACEKEEPERS, EACH WITH A DIFFERENT POWER!
NOW THE WAR HERE IS ENDED--AND WE WANT THE POWERS BACK! AND I WILL NOT HESITATE TO KILL YOU--IF YOU REFUSE TO SUBMIT TO MY WILL!
YOU-- YOU'VE GOT MY UNDIVIDED ATTENTION!
THE SARCOPHAGI ARE MERE EMPTY VESSELS!
LIKE YA KILLED ESCHBACHER 3! EARTH NEEDED HIM-- BUT YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!
TAKE BACK YOUR STUPID COFFINS AND LEAVE US ALONE!
"--AND YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE CLEARLY NOT THE RIGHT BEINGS!"
THIS WAY, GANG!
ONLY FIVE BEINGS AT A TIME MAY PARTAKE OF THE TRANS-FIGURATION--
THESE EARS MAY LOOK FUNNY-- BUT I CAN HEAR GODZILLA INSULTING US ON TOP OF THE PARAGON PICTURES BUILDING!
PARAGON PICTURES

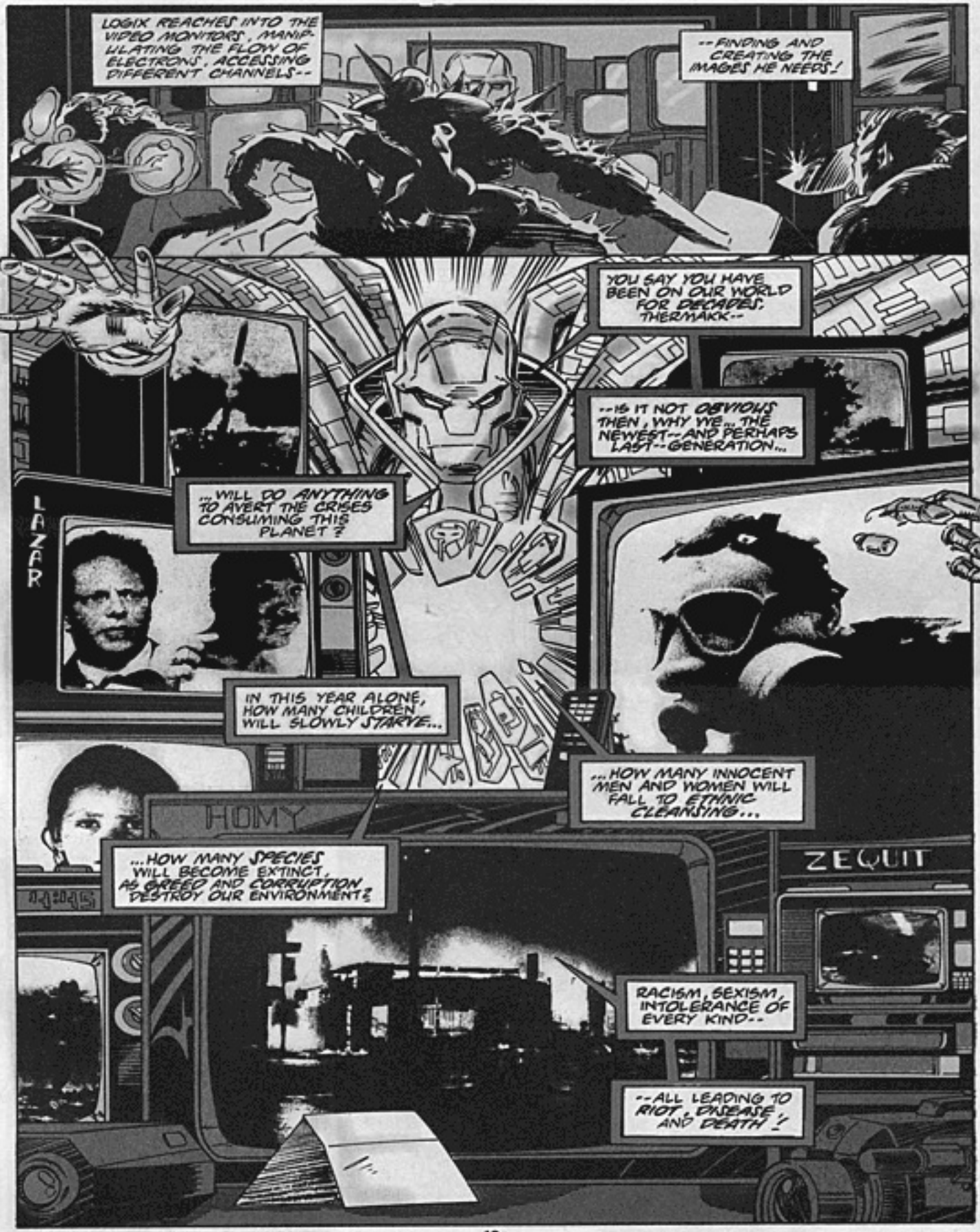
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, FOLKS!
RIPLEY'S JUST ADDED A NEW BELIEVE-IT-OR-NOT!
IF MY GROWING AWARENESS OF THIS BODY'S POSSIBILITIES IS CORRECT--
--IT'S TIME TO REACH OUT AND TOUCH SOMEONE!
THE AIR HUMS, FILLED WITH THE ELECTRIC SMELL OF OZONE...
...AND THEN HE IS GONE!
THANK YOU FOR USING...
...PACIFIC BELL.
LOOKS LIKE WE LUCKED INTO A STORY, KARL!
NO TIME TO GET A PORTABLE CAMERA--JUST KEEP IT ROLLING!
THE PAXIS OF EARTH TRIED TO TEACH YOUR SPECIES THE LAW OF QUO-- THE LAW OF PEACE AT ALL COSTS.
YOU HUMANS WOULD NOT LEARN. IN THE END, EVEN YOUR PAXIS WERE DEFEATED--AND THE SARCOPHAGI WERE LOST FOR THREE BLOODY DECADES!
WAIT UP! I HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE HANG OF THIS FLYIN' YET!

YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE USED THE POWER SARCOPHAGI! IF YOU DO NOT GIVE UP THE ENHANCEMENTS, YOU WILL BECOME OUTCASTS, LIKE THE PAXIS BEFORE YOU!
GOT TO GET MORE POWER!
WITHOUT TRAINING, YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO USE THE POWERS PROPERLY-- AND YOU WILL DESTROY YOUR PLANET! HEED ME, GIRL!
SHAZZ
OH, I'M HEEDING YOU ALL RIGHT--
GREAT-- THIS MAY DO THE TRICK...
KRAKA BLAM
--AND MAYBE YOU SHOULD HEED THIS!
NO, LISA! YOU'LL WEAKEN THE VERY STRUCTURE UPON WHICH WE--
--NEVER MIND!
YAAAH!
IF I'VE GOT TO DIE WITH YOU-- FINE!
WHAT AM I SAYING?
--NOW HOW DO I GET HER OUT OF THIS MESS?

CURSED CHILDREN! YOU THINK THIS WILL HARM ME?!
NAH-- BUT MAYBE THIS WILL!
SHRAK
AARRKK!
GREAT! HE'S LET ME GO! NOW HOW DID ESCHBACHER GET HIMSELF GOING UP INSTEAD OF DOWN?
DON'T SWEAT IT, HONEY! I GOT YA!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO GET ME, DYAN! I TOOK THE OLD MAN'S KEY SO I COULD GET AWAY FROM YOU!
WELL, YOU'RE TOO HEAVY FOR ME TO FLY WITH, LISA-- SHOULD I DROP YOU, OR CAN WE ARGUE WHILE WE FLOAT TO THE GROUND?
WHAT'S THERE TO ARGUE ABOUT? FIRST YOU STOLE KENNY FROM ME AND THEN YOU HAD TO FOLLOW ME ON THIS... NOW YOU'RE RUINING THE MOST AMAZING THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME!
AND TO TOP IT ALL OFF-- YOUR POWER TURNS YOU INTO JESSICA RABBIT...
...WHILE I'M STUCK BEING A HUMAN CHASTITY BELT!
KENNY SAYS THE COSTUMES COME FROM "THE DEPTHS OF OUR SUB-CONSCIOUS"...
WELL, ISN'T THAT SPECIAL?
KA-KRESH

DAZED, OUR NEW HEROES COLLECT THEMSELVES--
--AS THERMAKK CRAWLS INTO THE FLEUPD-DARKNESS THAT PASSES FOR NIGHT IN HOLLYWOOD.
I HEARD OL' SNAKE-EYES TELLING YOU A SOB STORY ABOUT THE STARVING ALIENS NEEDING OUR TABLE SCRAPS. YOU BUY IT?
HE TRIED TO KILL US! WE SHOULDN'T TRUST A WORD OUT OF HIS SCALY LIPS!
CLEARLY, THERE IS MUCH WE DO NOT UNDER-STAND ABOUT OUR SITUATION...
YEAH--AND WHILE YOU WERE SAYING FLESHPOT HERE WITH YOUR SUPERHEROICS...
...YOU BUSTADYED THE COMPUTER THAT COULD HAVE GIVEN US SOME ANSWERS...
"...AT LEAST THERMAKK KNOWS WHAT OUR POWERS ARE. I SAY WE CONVINCE HIM THAT WE NEED HEROES MORE THAN SOME ALIEN PLANET DOES!
"HOW DIFFICULT CAN THAT BE AROUND HERE?"
BARK
SURE WE CAN HELP YOU OUT --COKE, MESC, OR CRACK?
EPH612
OR MAYBE ALL'A THE ABOVE?
SCREECH
NOW WHAT GOT HIM SO SPOOKED...?
FOR YOU?!
FOR YOU SCUM THOSE WHELPS WOULD USURP QUO'S POWER?!
HOMON

LOOK AROUND YOU, THERMAKK! KIDS SELLING DOPE AND DOING WORSE TO SURVIVE ON THE STREETS!
WITH OUR NEW POWERS, WE CAN CHANGE THAT!
DREAM MANACLES!
THERMAKK BURSTS BLISS'S DREAM-CUFFS--
--CRIPPLING THE POOR GIRL WITH PSYCHIC FEEDBACK!
GROWWR!
FWAM
YOU TRY SLEEPIN' IN A CARDBOARD BOX, *@X WIPE!
PEOPLE HUNGRY... OUTTA WORK... NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO LIVE LIKE THIS!
KAKRASH
OKAY, KENNY-- WE'VE HAD OUR SAY...
TIME FOR ME TO REASON WITH OUR ADVERSARY.
M-MAYBE I KILLED HIM!
WE SHOULD BE SO LUCKY!
HOLD HIM!


LOGIX REACHES INTO THE VIDEO MONITORS, MANIPULATING THE FLOW OF ELECTRONS, ACCESSING DIFFERENT CHANNELS--
--FINDING AND CREATING THE IMAGES HE NEEDS!
YOU SAY YOU HAVE BEEN ON OUR WORLD FOR DECADES, THERMAKK--
--IS IT NOT OBVIOUS THEN, WHY WE... THE NEWEST--AND PERHAPS LAST--GENERATION...
...WILL DO ANYTHING TO AVERT THE CRISES CONSUMING THIS PLANET?
LAZAR
IN THIS YEAR ALONE, HOW MANY CHILDREN WILL SLOWLY STARVE...
...HOW MANY INNOCENT MEN AND WOMEN WILL FALL TO ETHNIC CLEANSING...
HOMY
...HOW MANY SPECIES WILL BECOME EXTINCT, AS GREED AND CORRUPTION DESTROY OUR ENVIRONMENT?
ZEQUIT
RACISM, SEXISM, INTOLERANCE OF EVERY KIND--
--ALL LEADING TO RIOT, DISEASE AND DEATH!

YOUR WORLD HAS BROUGHT THESE THINGS UPON ITSELF!
WELL, BUDDY, I'M NOT GOING TO JUST STAND BY AND LET MY LITTLE BROTHERS AND SISTERS INHERIT A PLANET IN RUIN!
THEY'VE GOT A SECOND CHANCE COMIN'! 'CAUSE I'M GONNA GIVE IT TO 'EM!
WHAT IS IT YOU'RE AFTER...?
THE GIRL WHO WAS ONCE DYAN OPENS THERMAKA'S MIND, PERUSES ITS HOPES, FEARS, DREAMS...
...AND FINDS THERE THE OBJECTS OF HIS QUEST.
COULD IT BE THESE? PERHAPS I NOTICED ONE ON TOP OF EACH OF OUR CHANGING ROOMS!
WOW-- THIS IS LIKE SOMETHIN' OUTTA MY BUDDY'S COMICS COLLECTION! CHECK IT OUT!
C'MON, CARLOS-- IT'S JUST ANOTHER MOVIE STUNT!
CATCH, BEASTY-BOY!
THE POWER-GLOBES! HOW DID YOU GET THOSE? THEY MUSTN'T BE HARMED!
COME TO PAPA, LITTLE THERMIE!
JUST FOLLOW THE BOUNCING BALLY INTO THE NICE WARM LABORATORY!
IT'S TIME WE GOT THIS FIGHT AWAY FROM THE INNOCENT BYSTANDERS...

THE GLOBE--GONE!
A TRICK!
SHE'S ALREADY MASTERED THE POWER OF ILLUSION!
BLOOP
GROWR!
IT MAY NOT BE HIGH NOON, BUT NOW THAT I'VE GOT THE REAL POWERGLOBES JUST A BLADE-SWIPE AWAY, I THINK IT'S TIME FOR A SHOWDOWN!
GOT YOU BY THE POWER BALLS EH, THERMAKK?

FOOL! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!
YOU'D DESTROY THE LAST HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL GALAXY--JUST TO THREATEN ME?
YEAH--I WOULD! I GUESS I JUST GOT A THING ABOUT AUTHORITY FIGURES!
IT'S TRUE... TAKE FROM ME WHAT I WANT, EARTHLING--AT YOUR OWN PERIL!
—guard the crystal coffins with your lives—for if they are damaged, so too is the one reborn inside!

PLEASE... DON'T, GEORGE...
...THAT... THAT COFFIN IS MINE...
...IT REMADE ME...
EVERYTHING I'VE EVER DREAMED OF HAS BEEN STOLEN FROM ME -- DON'T TAKE THIS AWAY, TOO!
KILL HER AND BE DONE WITH IT IF YOU WISH! I'M SICK OF YOU PETTY HUMANS!
ALL RIGHT... ALL RIGHT... I GIVE!
GUESS WE AIN'T SO PETTY AFTER ALL...
NO. WE ARE NOT PETTY. WE ARE CONCERNED -- FOR THE FATE OF OUR WORLD.
YOU SAY WE DON'T NEED THESE POWERS. I SAY WE DO. BUT IN THE END, IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO DECIDE.
WE HAVE TAKEN THEM FOR EARTH. I WILL DESTROY THIS FIFTH, UNUSED POWER -- IF YOU DON'T LET US BE.
SEE HOW EASILY MY HAND ENTERS? A CARESS... OR A PUNCH -- IT'S YOUR CHOICE, THERMAKK.
IN A HEARTBEAT, I CAN CRACK THAT GLOBE AND SPILL ITS ESSENCE FOREVER.
I SEE I UNDERESTIMATED YOU.
BUT DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE ME.
I WILL RETURN.
FWASH

BUT EVEN IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING, THIS MUCH CHAOS ON HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD DOES NOT GO UNNOTICED...
WE FIND OURSELVES SOME LOOTIN' ACTION?!
NAH, MAN, CHECK IT OUT!
THEY'RE-- THEY'RE FROM ANOTHER PLANET!
DO THEY WANT TO TALK TO ROSS PEROT?
CUT! THAT'S A WRAP, GUYS!
GREAT WORK! I WOULDA BELIEVED IT MYSELF!
?
!
YOU EXTRAS WERE PERFECT! LOOK FOR YOURSELVES IN CROC-BADDIES FROM THE STARS THIS CHRISTMAS...
...'CAUSE I THINK WE'VE GOT A HIT ON OUR HANDS!
NICE COVER, DYAN. BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE THERMAKK'S SPECIAL ENTRANCE HERE-- SQUATTERS WILL TAKE OVER IN A SECOND.
BLOOP
JUST LEAVE THAT TO ME AND LISA...

AN ANONYMOUS GRAVE... DUG BY STRANGELY DOCILE MEN, THEIR EYES ALL BUT UNSEEING!
CEMETERY
AS THE DAWN APPROACHES, SO DOES A MYSTERIOUS FIGURE...
I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WOULD BE MOURNERS-- EXCEPT FOR HIS FRIENDS HERE...
OH, HUSH THERMAKK... JUST BECAUSE YOU'VE PUT ON HUMAN FLESH FOR THE OCCASION...
...IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE YOU'LL FOOL ME.
I'VE COME TO PAY MY RESPECTS JUST AS YOU HAVE, QUO.
ESCHBACHER WAS A MIGHTY WARRIOR-- A STRONG COMRADE.
A THIEF... A DESTROYER OF WORLDS...
...BUT A PAXIS--AND IN NO SMALL SENSE, DESERVING OF A QUO BURIAL.
YES... NO RITUAL... NO HEADSTONE... JUST THE BLESSED ANONYMITY OF THE EARTH.
THERE IS SO MUCH TO THE QUO PHILOSOPHY-- AND SO LITTLE...
...YOUR INJURIES, MANDAMUS ...?
I HAVE SUSTAINED WORSE. THERE IS A MONASTERY WHERE I WILL REGAIN MY VIGOR.
AND THE CHILDREN?
I TRUST YOU'LL HAVE BETTER LUCK WITH THEM THAN I...
STRENGTH AND GRACE, THEN, MANDAMUS THERMAKK, LAWGIVER OF QUO.
STRENGTH AND GRACE...

OUR NEW HEROES GREET THE DAWN AT THE LONG-DESERTED HELIOPOLIS CINEMA...
... SECRET HIDING PLACE OF THE PAXIS LABORATORY.
HELIOPOLIS CINEMA
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP FILLING IN THERMAKK'S HOLE, GEORGE!
NO SWEAT, MAN...
JUST LOOK AT THIS MESS!
LISA, THERE'S NO NEED TO TAKE YOUR FRUSTRATIONS OUT ON RYAN!
DANG STRAIGHT HE DID-- AT LEAST UNTIL YOU CAME ALONG!
I GAVE UP MY LIFE TO ESCAPE FROM YOU TWO! IT'S NOT FAIR!
THANKS FOR THE SAVE, HANDSOME! YOU REALLY DATED THIS PSYCHO?
TEKKA
TEKKA
TEKKA
I HATE THIS! I HATE THIS! I HATE THIS!
I SHOULD HAVE JUST LET YOU GO KER-SPLAT BACK THERE. THAT DINOSAUR DUDE WANTS US ALL DEAD, REMEMBER?
DON'T PREACH TO ME, YOU BI--
COOL IT, YOU TWO!
LOOK--WE DID WHAT WE HAD TO DO. THERE WAS NO OTHER CHOICE.
NOW WE'VE GOT INCREDIBLE POWERS--AND WE'VE GOT TO GO OUT THERE AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD!
YOU-- YOU'RE RIGHT...

EASY FOR YOU TO SAY.
HOW AM I EVER GOING TO PLAY GUITAR--
--WITH THESE?!
HE'D ALWAYS WANTED TO BE ONE OF THE X-MEN...
...BUT NOW HE KNOWS HIS HEROES SHED REAL TEARS...
...BITTER TEARS...
OH, GEORGE-- I'M SO SORRY...
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT. EICHBACHER WASN'T STUCK, SO NEITHER ARE WE.
YEAH-- AND WHEN WE NEED TO, WE'VE GOT THESE COOL KEYS TO OUR HIDEOUT...
WELL, I SURE AS HELL WON'T BE GOING HOME LIKE THIS!
AT LEAST I'VE GOT A SNAKE FOR MY SYMBOL... DON'T TREAD ON ME...
MINE'S KIND OF PRETTY!
AND WE'VE EACH GOT OUR OWN KEYHOLE...
DON'T WORRY, GEORGE-- WE'LL THINK THIS THING THROUGH.

I'LL PULL MINE OUT AND GET US INSIDE...
THE TRANSFORMATION IS PAINLESS, BRILLIANT...
...REVEALING A SHY, UNCERTAIN YOUNG WOMAN.
FWASH
WH-WHO AM I NOW... AM I STILL LISA--OR AN ARMORED SOLDIER... SOME KIND OF ONE-WOMAN WEAPONS TEAM?
TRY ARMATA--IT HAS A BEAUTIFUL RING TO IT. STRONG.
CHANGE WAS WHAT YOU WANTED. NOW WE'RE ALL DIFFERENT--WE'RE ALL HYPER-KIND, AREN'T WE?
WELL, I LIKE IT. I NEVER HAD MUCH OF A LIFE TO BEGIN WITH--SO THIS IS BLISS.
POP!
FLOWERS! TH-THANKS... BLISS IS EXACTLY WHO YOU ARE NOW. A NEW NAME--A NEW LIFE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KENNY?
BLOOP!
BLOOP!
I JUST FEEL COLD. I DON'T LIKE THAT, BUT I SEE WHY IT HAS TO BE. EVERYTHING HAS A LOGIC OF ITS OWN NOW.
LOGIC, THEN... THAT'S YOU.
NO, DUDE! WITH AN X--LOGIX! THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE!
AND YOU CAN CALL ME AMOWK, MAN--
--GIVE ME TWO AS, AND LET ME RUN WITH IT!
WELL, GUYS--
--LOOKS LIKE THE DAWN OF ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL DAY IN L.A.!
I SURE HOPE THEY'RE READY FOR US...
BUT THEY'RE NOT! NEXT ISSUE: THEIR SEARCH FOR THE TRUTH ABOUT PAXIS THREATENS TO DESTROY ALL OF L.A.!

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HYPERKIND

I was interested in creating mythologies...

...that were close to the things I had read as a kid. I'm talking about the FANTASTIC FOUR, SPIDER-MAN, Superman, Batman and so on, rather more on-the-nose sort of stuff. So, I went to Marvel, and said, "Look, I really am eager to do this, but I feel as though I need to carve off a little section of comic-book reality to call mine." Because otherwise I'm going to start treading on Marvel's rules and regulations, and I know they're relatively restricted.

I then said I have four titles for you, and a cycle of ten worlds, the Decamundi. These four titles will occur in these worlds, but I'll offer up the observation that at least several of those worlds will open internally into other worlds, so the Decamundi may be just the beginning of an expanding universe.

The most on-the-nose of the titles is HYPERKIND. I'm a great fan of team super-heroes, and that goes back to my first encounters with the FANTASTIC FOUR. They caught my imagination — and have continued to hold my imagination. HYPERKIND postulates that in the 1940's, there was an extraordinary band of super-heroes called Paxis, who defended the Earth from all comers, but were eventually destroyed by the machinations of a super villain called Paragon John. He basically made sure that Hyperkind members were either destroyed or driven to madness.

The powers of the Paxis were each preserved in a kind of sarcophagus. The last act of the leader, Eschbacher, was to preserve these powers. What happens now is that four kids (and then a surprise character), led by the dying Eschbacher, chance upon these charged-up sarcophagi and are granted the powers of super-heroes from two generations earlier.

So in a way, what we're doing is postulating the existence of a comic that never existed, a Golden Age comic called Paxis. And Paxis are the spiritual grandchildren of a generation of super-heroes that fought for justice and goodness in the purest sense, and fell, as it turns out, because of frailties within themselves. Paragon John is powerful, but couldn't have succeeded in Paxis destruction if they had not been intrinsically flawed.

The first to gain the powers — in her case, those of Eschbacher himself — is Lisa Moffitt. She has his ability to fly, to survive in any environmental extreme, and to use any physical object as an extension of her own body. Kenny, her sometimes boyfriend, has become a mathematical titan: he can instantly calculate any probability, and the weaknesses in their enemies. Kenny's friend George Yoneda, who loves action, is the group's wild man: he can telepathically communicate with animals. Dyan, Lisa's rival for Kenny's affection, has become a dream manipulator, who can conjure up in reality the dream creatures of any sentient being. And there will be a fifth member of Hyperkind, but not yet, not yet...

I think my job here is hopefully to create some mythologies that writers and artists will, in years to come, find intriguing and bring their own things to. I want to be democratic about this: I'm the pump primer here. My attitude is much as it is with the *Hellraiser* sequels — that I will watch over this stuff, and give support, encouragement and ideas when requested. But my initial gift, if you like, is the gift of an idea that I hope will be rich enough to encourage diverse hands and imaginations to play with.

— Excerpted from *Comics Scene*.

please allow me t'introduce myself...

...He said, in his best Mick Jagger voice. In case you arrived late and missed the opening credits, my name is Marc McLaurin, and I'm the guardian of Clive Barker's newest brainchild, the Razorline imprint. Beginning with *HYPERKIND*, we are creating a new fully integrated and uniquely imaginative universe within the boundless boundaries of the comic medium. And loving it.

havin' my baby

It's always a strange experience, watching a new book come together. Rather like having a child, I imagine, in the respect that no matter how many times one goes through it, the experience is never the same.

And we've done it four times.

The names are ones you'll doubtless hear a lot of in the near future: *HYPERKIND. ECTOKID. HOKUM & HEX. SAINT SINNER.* Four titles which, while being dramatically different from each other, comprise a whole universe filled with the awe of discovery, fraught with danger and ripe for adventure.

me and my big mouth

But I'm not here to play salesman — after all, you've already picked up this issue. What we're looking for is some straight-shot response. I've spent this last summer going to every convention I could, trying to do half as many appearances as Clive, both of us pitching basically one message: Just look at this.

I've even been known to pitch the slogan that these comics are: "The best new ideas to hit comics in the last ten years." I don't take that presumption lightly. I've the feeling I'm in on the ground floor of something truly new, and really amazing, with the finest comic art, vivid characterizations, and powerful stories, inspired and overseen by a master storyteller with a real eye for talent, and a true love for the medium. You can understand and maybe even excuse if I'm suitably impressed to be a part of it.

now comes your part

But ultimately, it's not my call, it's yours, and for that reason, all of us here are anxiously awaiting your response. There's a lot going on out there at your local comic shop, accompanied by more than enough hype to fill your head and leave it aching. So we'll forgo that, for now, in favor of a simple request:

Look at this, and see for yourself. Send your eagerly awaited responses to:

RAZORLINE
c/o Marvel Comics
387 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016

Now if you'll excuse me, I've some diapers to change...

Just a quick hello.

I'm still getting my bearings — having come aboard after the initial bang of creation, about one month back — but here goes.

Right off, I passed Tom Daning (the name you might have noticed in RAZORLINE FIRST CUT) as he took a last box to a new home on the ninth floor, the title of associate editor on the door (Tom is now editing a slew of his own books, TROUBLE WITH GIRLS among them).

So, having not been around when most of this was made solid, I began to rummage the files. I looked through the rough logo designs, saw why most were chucked, read the preliminary list of book titles (an early title for ECTOKID I learned was DEAD BOY DEX; by far my favorite of the scrap), read the proposals, the plots, looked at the pencils, the inks...

In a nutshell, I dug deep into the world Clive Barker created, the Decamundi, and came up only after making it a place I knew — a place I could return to with little to no effort. The process wasn't hard. This was a place I would enjoy returning to, again and again.

But even better, there's a snack machine down the hall, which helps.

Stay around awhile. You'll be glad you did.

Next in Hyperkind:

What happened to the original Paxis — and what powerful malevolent force wants to make the world believe they never existed?! Questions beckon in "The Big Lie!" — but the price of the truth may be the destruction of greater L. A.!

ELSEWHERE, ALONG THE RAZOR'S EDGE:

HOKUM & HEX #2: Standup comic Trip Monroe has had his life put on hold, while the mantle of "Earth's Champion" is foisted upon him — but he doesn't have to *like* it! And Felon Bale means to guarantee he won't, as the first line of extradimensional invasion comes to Rockefeller Center! Trip faces off with The Analyzer!

SAINT SINNER #2: They say you can't go home again, as our newly empowered hero is about to discover first-hand, when he returns home nine years older overnight, and wanted for murder! Homecoming means startling revelations, final endings and new beginnings for the Man Who Walks Between!

CUTTING EDGE ALERT!

ECTOKID #2: Dex's origin is revealed, as the Brothers Augustine tighten their noose around Dex's life!